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CONTACT: Angie Castro at (213) 703-2823

**MOLINA HONORS TOP “EARTH DEFENDERS” OF “A GREEN BAG
FOR A CLEAN EARTH” CAMPAIGN**

***STUDENTS FIGHT BAG MONSTER AND LEARN ABOUT REUSABLE BAGS
BAG MONSTER JOINS PRESENTATION AT SUPERVISORS MEETING JULY 28***

15 San Gabriel Valley Schools to Kick-Off Next Phase

LOS ANGELES (July 27, 2009) -- Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina will honor the first and top “Earth Defenders” who participated in her “A Green Bag for a Clean Earth” program—who fought the “Bag Monster” by promoting reusable bags as an alternative to plastic bags.

More than 1,450 students from the Florence-Firestone area elementary schools learned about the negative impacts of plastic bags on the environment -- and, as part of this campaign, were the first to promote the use of reusable bags in place of single-use bags.

The top participating school -- Lillian Elementary school had extensive participation from its student body, and helped reduce more than 4,000 plastic bags in the County’s First District. The winning student “Earth Defenders” Dylan Mayorga, Rogelio Viera, and Karla Sanchez will be recognized for their outstanding efforts to “Reduce, Recycle, and Reuse” and for helping preserve a “greener” earth.

“These young students have begun behavioral change among themselves, their households and community -- and are creating a whole new generation of earth defenders,” said Molina. “By learning and helping us educate their parents and family members about the importance of reusable bags, young people are leading the charge in preserving a ‘greener’ earth for their generation and generations to come.”

Students who collected the most stickers by using their bags received prizes such as a Dodger on-field experience, Dodger tickets, a bike, and Disney goody bags.

Molina’s “A Green Bag for a Clean Earth” travels to 15 additional elementary schools in the San Gabriel Valley in the Fall.

WHEN: Tuesday, July 28, 2009 – 9:30AM

WHERE: Board Room, Hall of Administration, 500 W. Temple Street, L.A. CA 90022

WHO: Supervisor Gloria Molina, Lillian Elementary School Students, the “Bag Monster,” Heal the Bay, County Public Works “Brag About Your Bag” Team, San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps, El Super, Superior Grocers, AT&T, Fox Sports en Español, Los Angeles Dodgers, Southern California Edison, Southern California Gas Company, Walt Disney Company.